

CONNECT: MAKING STRATEGIC CONNECTIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

No matter where you are in the implementation of your Mentoring Children of Prisoners project, it is never too soon to consider the various aspects involved with sustaining your program activities beyond your Mentoring Children of Prisoners funding. Most organizations think of “sustainability” only as fundraising. But fund development is only one part of the bigger concept of sustainability. True sustainability embodies many other organizational capacity elements.

This interactive session encompass both theoretical and practical instruction. In addition to hearing from expert presenters, participants will also have the opportunity to connect with each other in small groups, and to connect with a peer panel consisting of current Mentoring Children of Prisoners grantees that have developed comprehensive sustainability strategies. Each organization will have the opportunity to develop its own sustainability blueprint.

The early afternoon topics will include:

- Defining sustainability;
- Identifying which programs and business functions to sustain; and
- Using logic models to develop your sustainability plan.

The late afternoon session will concentrate on the various fund development strategies:

- Government and foundation proposals;
- Developing a major gifts program;
- Web fundraising; and
- Building revenue streams appropriate for your organization.

Presenter: Brent Swinton, Training and Technical Assistance Manager, Mentoring Children of Prisoners Technical Assistance Center

Brent Swinton gained his broad expertise in fundraising, program management, and nonprofit management working in the public sector as a case manager, field researcher, executive director, and fundraising consultant. Swinton currently serves as training and technical assistance manager at Dare Mighty Things, Inc., which implements both the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Technical Assistance Center and the Compassion Capital Fund National Resource Center. Swinton’s practical experience and academic preparation brings added value to the faith-based and community-based organizations participating in those U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant programs. Swinton earned a master’s of public administration degree with an emphasis on nonprofit management from the University of Central Florida, and has a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Georgia. He and his wife are the parents of two daughters.

Inspire. Connect. Impact.

Peer Presenters:

Wendy Bohdel, Vice President, Mentoring Programs, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Maryland and the Lower Eastern Shore

Susie Walsh, Executive Director, Committed Partners for Youth in Oregon